Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 COME-00 FRB-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15 /056 W

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R 131158Z MAR 78 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6687 DEPARTMENT TREASURY INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 04483

USEEC AND USOECD
DEPARTMENT PASS FEDERAL RESERVE

E.O. 11652:N/A TAGS: EFIN, GW

SUBJECT: GERMAN BALANCE OF PAYMENTS IN JANUARY

REF: CERP 0102

1. TRANSMITTED HEREWITH ARE GERMAN BALANCE OF PAYMENTS FIGURES FOR JANUARY 1978 AND, FOR COMPARISON, FOR JANUARY AND DECEMBER 1977.

JANUARY JANUARY DECEMBER

1978 1977 1977

(IN MILLIONS OF DM)

EXPORTS F.O.B. 21,313 19,792 25,435

IMPORTS C.I.F. 19,414 17,807 21,214

TRADE BALANCE 1,899 1,985 4,221

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS 178 - 383 172

TRADE BALANCE (INCLUDING SUPPLEMENTARY

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ITEMS) 2,077 1,602 4,393 SERVICES 0 - 733 - 300

UNILATERAL TRANSFERS -2,300 -1,248 -1,500

BALANCE OF

INVISIBLES -2,300 -1,981 -1,800

CURRENT ACCOUNT

BALANCE -223 -379 2,593

LONG-TERM CAPITAL

PRIVATE CAPITAL 2,703 -926 1,899

DIRECT INVESTMENT -75 -288 -377

PORTOFOLIO INVESTMENT 426 -752 652

CREDITS AND LOANS 2,411 184 1,689

OTHER -58 -71 -66

OFFICIAL CAPITAL -138 12 -215

BALANCE OF LONG-TERM

CAPITAL 2,565 -914 1,684

SHORT TERM CAPITAL

COMMERCIAL BANKS -1,821 -436 1,749

PRIVATE NON-BANKS -133 -122 -736

OFFICIAL 623 -146 -1,194

UNRECORDED TRANSACTIONS761 1,565 2,326

BALANCE OF SHORT-TERM

CAPITAL -570 861 2,145

DM REVALUATION LOSS - - 7,880

NET FOREIGN POSITION OF

BUNDESBANK 1,772 -432 -1,458

2. IN THE TWO-MONTH PERIOD DECEMBER 1977 AND JANUARY 1978 ON A SEASONALLY ADJUSTED BASIS IMPORTS INCREASED BY 5 PERCENT AS COMPARED WITH OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1977 WHILE EXPORTS DECLINED SLIGHTLY BY 0.4 PERCENT. THE BUNDESBANK BELIEVES THIS REFLECTS A "NORMALIZATION" OF TRADE FLOWS. THE BUNDESBANK FEELS THAT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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MONETARY UNREST IN AUTUMN 1977

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 COME-00 FRB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15 /056 W

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R 131158Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6688
DEPARTMENT TREASURY
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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EXPORTERS HAD ADVANCED EXPORTS BUT ARE NOW RETURNING TO A NORMAL DELIVERY PACE. IMPORTERS ALSO WHICH HAD TEMPORARILY DELAYED IMPORTS HAVE BEGUN TO REACT IN MORE NORMAL MANNER.

THE INCREASE IN THE TRANSFERS BALANCE FROM DM 1.5 BILLION IN DECEMBER TO DM 2.3 BILLION IN JANUARY LARGELY REFLECTS INCREASED PAYMENTS OF THE FRG TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

3. THE LONG-TERM CAPITAL IMPORTS WHICH BEGAN IN DECEMBER INCREASED IN JANUARY. THIS MAY AGAIN BE LARGELY A REACTION TO THE INCREASE IN MINIMUM RESERVES ON THE BANKS' FOREIGN LIABILITIES DECIDED IN MID-DECEMBER. IN ORDER TO AVOID THE 80 PERCENT RESERVE REQUIREMENT ON THE INCREASE IN SUCH LIABILITIES THE BANKS REDUCED THEIR SHORT-TERM FOREIGN LIABILITIES AND BORROWED DM 2.2 BILLION ON LONG-TERM. THESE BORROWINGS REMAIN FREE FROM RESERVE REQUIREMENTS SINCE SUCH RESERVES ARE IMPOSED ONLY ON LIABILITIES WITH MATURITIES OF LESS THAN 4 YEARS. UNCLASSIFIED

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4. IN FEBRUARY THE BUNDESBANK'S FOREIGN POSITION INCREASED FURTHER BY DM 2.3 BILLION REFLECTING SUBSTANTIAL DOLLAR PURCHASES BY THE BUNDESBANK AND DEUTSCHEMARK SALES BY THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK.

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